

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

*Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 21 as follows:*

Meanwhile, when the D/F switch 31d is turned on, the footwell openings 11 and defroster duct passage 25 are respectively opened, and the ventilation openings 13 and upper ventilation duct passage 26 are closed, regardless of whether the UPPER VENT switch 31f is turned on (steps S13, S14, S16 and S12). Accordingly, the air-conditioned air from the air conditioning unit 100 is conducted to each of the footwell outlets and defroster outlet 16a, and then blown towards the occupant's lower legs and feet as well as the windshield, respectively. Also, when the DEF switch 31e is turned on, the defroster duct passage 25 is opened, and the footwell openings 11, ventilation openings 13, and upper ventilation duct passage 26 are closed, regardless of whether the UPPER VENT switch 31f is turned on (steps S15, S14, S16 and S12). Accordingly, the air-conditioned air from the air conditioning unit 100 is conducted only to the defroster outlet 16a and directed to the windshield. As long as the selected air distribution mode includes the defroster outlet 16a as one of the outlets to which the air is distributed, the upper ventilation duct passage 26 is always closed irrespective of the operation of the UPPER VENT switch 31f to block the air ~~[[blow]]~~flow from the upper ventilation outlet 18a, thus limiting a decrease in the rate of airflow at the defroster outlet 16a or footwell outlets.

*Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 17 as follows:*

(4) Since the defroster duct passage 25 and the upper ventilation opening 17 are opened and closed by the switching damper 23 alone, the number of components can be reduced. Also, even if the damper 23 is broken, air can be certainly distributed to any of outlets 16a and ~~[[18b]]~~18a.